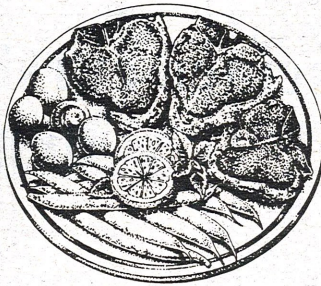


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Relato di científico Arubiano Dr. Edward B. Cheung, PhD

ORANJESTAD (AAN): Den e columna aki, pueblo por lesa e relato cu e científico Arubiano, Dr. Edward B. Cheung a duna di e ultimo dia di su mision. El a skirbie na ingles, y aki pueblo por lesa con contento e ta cu e mision.

During our final cooldown attempt, we finally reached a low temperature of 72.64 degrees above absolute zero on the cryogenic refrigerator. This is only 0.64 degrees short of our goal of 72K, but our management is happy with this performance.

When we were only two days into the mission, the thermal engineers realized that their predictions were incorrect, and that we would be warm. The worst day would be seven days into the mission. That is when the temp of the HOST Controller (the central computer I built for this mission) would have reached 53C. Since I was told that we would be cool for the mission, I never designed the controller to operate at that temperature. For that reason, NASA management decided that if my box got that hot, it would be shut off. That would also mean that our WHOLE cradle would be shut off, losing the ability to collect science data. This underlines how central the HOST Controller is for the mission. Without the controller, there would be no mission. Fortunately, we were able to alter the Shuttle's orbits to keep the temperature in the bay down.

We are all pretty relaxed and happy that this mission has gone so well. This is also apparently the case at mission control. Every morning, the Flight Activities Officer issues a schedule of the day. This morning's package has a cartoon on the front cover that featured HOST. It jokingly refers to our constant complaints that we are always too warm. By now, they are probably a little tired of our constant requests for cold orbits.

On Friday the main activity for the instrument I worked on was warming back up.

If we landed with the cooler at 72 degrees above absolute zero, the warm Florida air rushing into the instrument may damage something. It would be like pouring boiling hot water into a frozen glass. The large temperature shock can break something. Warming up means that our team can relax since most of the turbomachines are shut off.

My shift, the Blue Team was responsible for powering down the instruments

one by one. We started at 2:00am, and every time we powered down

an instrument, it was announced over the voice communication system, and we

all applauded and cheered for a successful mission. It was really a happy

atmosphere in our control center.

Esnan cu tin aceso na Internet, por check e website di e científico Arubiano. Su adres ta:

http://www.mindspring.com/~dr_ed/job/host/hstd.htm

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